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THE CHICKEN FARMER

Antibiotics and the Chicken Industry – Communication Videos

Check out these new videos on antibiotic use and resistance!

Antibiotic use and resistance are hot topics within agriculture, government and media circles.

Most recently, the Canadian Government released a federal framework for action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Use in Canada which indicates the renewed priority level on these issues from the federal government. More information on this framework can be found at *healthycanadians.gc.ca/drugs-products-medicaments-produits/antibiotic-resistance-antibiotique/antimicrobial-framework-cadre-antimicrobiens-eng.php*

Farmers and all stakeholders need to be aware of the issues and concerns, and to participate in the industry strategy to reduce use where possible in order to maintain effective treatment options.

Chicken Farmers of Canada has created a series of videos entitled "Antibiotics and the Chicken Industry" – this four-part series is designed to communicate the issues of antibiotic use and resistance directly to producers and industry stakeholders.

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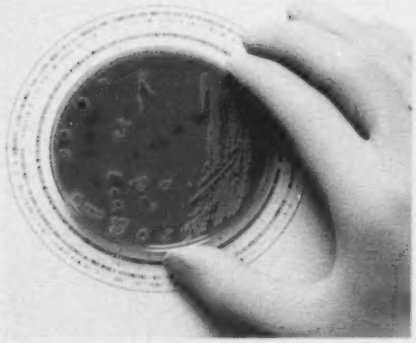
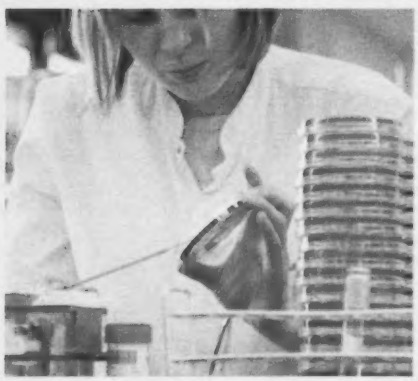
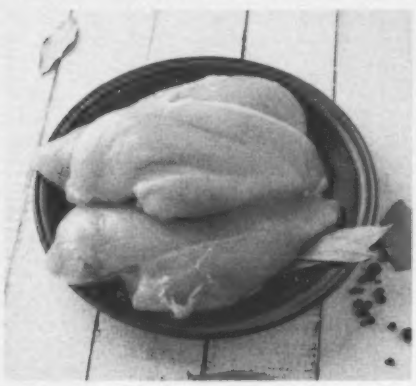
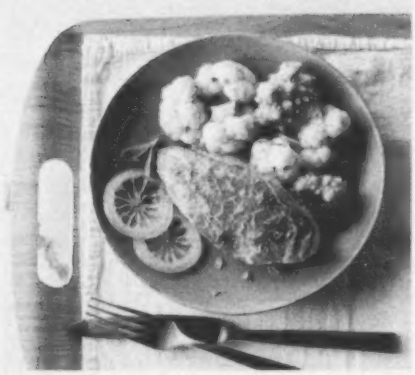
Chicken Farmers of Canada
Les Producteurs de poulet du Canada









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Throughout the videos, the key issues of antibiotic use and resistance are high lighted, while discussing the role of each stakeholder as part of the industry strategy.

These videos are available for viewing on your provincial board website.

Here's a synopsis of the four chapters:

Chapter 1: Antibiotic Use

This chapter discusses why antibiotics are used in agriculture, the categorization system for the importance of antibiotics, the types of antibiotics used in the chicken industry, and the need to use antibiotics responsibly.

Chapter 2: Antibiotic Resistance

This chapter covers the meaning of antibiotic resistance, how antibiotic resistance develops, Canadian resistance trends, and the risks associated with antibiotic resistance.

Chapter 3: Industry's Strategy

This chapter details the elements of Chicken Farmers of Canada's antibiotic use strategy which is designed to reduce use and provide confidence to consumers and government.

Chapter 4: Everyone Should be Involved

This chapter focusses on how farmers and all stakeholders can be involved in the reduction strategy by focusing on good production practices at their segment of the production chain.

In each chapter, Dr. Martine Boulianne, Chair in Poultry Research from the University of Montreal, provides context and explanations of the concepts being discussed.

Canada's chicken industry's Antibiotic Use Strategy focusses on the importance of responsible use, and being able to demonstrate responsible use to consumers and to government. These videos help to reinforce the need to use antibiotics responsibly and to reduce use where possible.

For more information on Chicken Farmers of Canada's Antibiotic Use Strategy, visit *www.chickenfarmers.ca/what-matters-to-us/antibiotics/*.

Electronic Flock Sheet Available This Spring!

Chicken Farmers of Canada and Turkey Farmers of Canada have together developed an electronic version of the current Flock Information Reporting Form (flock sheet).

The use of an electronic form has the advantage of reducing the load of papers that are kept on farm, while maintaining the data that producers need for traceability. Producers need to provide copies for their annual audits so it is recommended to keep all the files together in a folder so you can provide them easily upon request.

A pilot project to test the e-flock sheet took place in several provinces in collaboration with their provincial boards. Participating farmers and processing plants have been given the opportunity to provide feedback/suggestions via a questionnaire to both national offices on how to improve and ease the use of the fillable PDF. The choice will be provided to producers to continue using the paper format of the Flock Information Reporting Form or they can switch to using the new electronic version.

The e-form can either be sent electronically by email to the processor or printed and faxed. It is important that the producer checks with his processor prior to sending the form electronically to ensure the correct email and process are used. When the fillable PDF is to ready be sent electronically 3-4 days prior to shipment to the processor, a digital signature must be put in the signature box. A copy of the e-flock sheet must then be kept in the producer's computer and re-opened and updated to complete the e-flock sheet on the day of shipment. The digital signature will then need to be cleared and re-entered in the signature box on the day of shipment.

FLOCK INFORMATION REPORTING FORM

VERSION 7.0a

Producer/Enterprise Name | Producer Code/Quota | Placement Date

Barn # | Species | Category/Sex | Age of Birds | # Birds Placed | Birds Shipped | Mortality Rate (%) | Kg/Bird

CFC OFFSAP/TFC OFFSP Certification: Yes No Grow-out Density: kg/m² lb/ft² kg/ft² space/bird

SECTION A - MEDICATION AND VACCINE INFORMATION

			If Yes:
1.	Were medications or vaccines administered at the hatchery?	Yes No	A, B, D, E *
2.	Were vaccines administered on-farm?	Yes No	A, B, D, E
3.	Were any non-treated diseases or syndromes diagnosed during the flock?	Yes No	G
4.	Were any medications administered for treatment?	Yes No	A through G *
5.	Did the rations prior to shipment (in the last 7 days for chickens or in the last 14 for turkeys) have any feed medications with a withdrawal period?	Yes No	A, D, E*
6.	Were any extra-label medications used in the feed?	Yes No	A, D, E *
7.	Were any Category I medications (e.g., ceftiofur - Excenel™, enrofloxacin - Baytril™) used on-farm in a preventive manner?	Yes No	A through F *

RECORD ANY "YES" ANSWERS IN THE TABLE BELOW (USE THE GUIDE ABOVE TO FILL IN THE COLUMNS):

Question # (i.e. 1-7 above)	(A) Medication or Vaccine Name	(B) First treatment date	(C) Last treatment date	(D) Withdrawal Period (days)	(E) Safe marketing date (if any)	(F) Dose	(G) Disease or Syndrome & flock recovery (initials)

SECTION B - FEED WITHDRAWAL AND LOADING INFORMATION

Planned catching time:	M	D	Time	AM PM	Actual start of catching:						Time	AM PM	
Planned processing time:	M	D	Time	AM PM	Time of last access to water:						Time	AM PM	
Was the feed supply disrupted in the last 48 hours?	Yes	No			Feed withdrawal time provided by processor:						Time	AM PM	
Time feed was no longer accessible:	M	D	Floor #1 Time	AM PM	Floor #2 Time	AM PM			Floor #3 Time	AM PM			

Additional Comments:

Provide any additional comments on flock condition during the brooding/grow-out period and/or the catching process on a separate sheet of paper if desired.

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, the information contained on this flock information reporting form is accurate and complete and that any diseases that were diagnosed in the flock as a result of laboratory tests and/or readily observable clinical signs have been identified and reported on this form, and that I have followed required withdrawal times as per the veterinary prescription, labeling instructions and/or feed mill instructions.

Producer's Signature: _____

Note: This information is confidential between the producer and the processor.

EMAIL SAVE PRINT CLEAR FORM

A set of detailed instructions on how to fill out the electronic Flock Information Reporting Form and how to create a digital signature will be attached to the e-form. It is important for producers to take the time to read through the instructions before its use.

Record keeping is designed to prove that you have control over your operation. The use of the flock sheet fulfills the requirements of the CFIA for birds to be processed. It is important that producers fill out all the requested information even for farmers that ship to provincially-inspected processing plants. The flock sheet is a record that maintains information on vaccines, medications and diseases as well as on feed withdrawal and catching. Good record keeping demonstrates to government and consumers that we produce safe food and that farmers are doing what they say they do. OF

B.C. Chicken Farmer is Outstanding Young AGvocate

A young man who was "born to farm" is the recipient of the 2015 B.C. and Yukon Outstanding Young Farmer Award.

Abbotsford chicken grower Kerry Froese and his wife Anita, both 37, received the prestigious award from outgoing B.C. & Yukon Outstanding Young Farmer program chair Jennifer Woike and judges Walt Goerzen, Lisa Taylor, and Al Timms during a small ceremony in Abbotsford on January 15th. Kerry & Anita will represent the B.C./Yukon region at Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers national event in Edmonton, AB later this year.

Kerry is the B.C. Alternate Director to the Chicken Farmers of Canada Board of Directors and he also serves as a member of the CFC Consumer Relations Committee.

While producing 1.9 million kg of chicken/year might be enough for most, Kerry's passion is to be an "AGvocate" for supply management and for young people in agriculture. He is a founding member of B.C. Young Farmers and president of the Canadian Young Farmers Forum. After serving as vice-president and president of the B.C. Chicken Growers Association, he was elected to the B.C. Chicken Marketing Board in 2013. His efforts to promote agriculture and willingness to poke fun at himself were clearly on show when he played the villain in the extremely popular "Chicken Squad" videos the BCCGA produced last year. See them at *www.chickensquad.ca*

His parents began with a broiler breeder and raspberry farm, later adding a broiler farm. After Kerry began managing the farms in his teens, the family converted the entire operation to broilers.

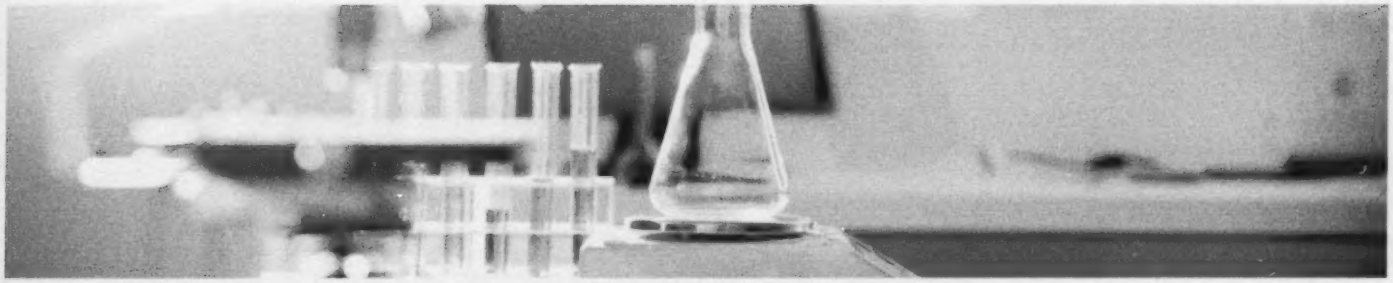
In the early 2000s, the family consolidated the quotas into Triple F (Froese Family Farm) Enterprises and built two new double-decker 500 x 52-foot barns on a new 20-acre property.

"Having multiple barns in multiple locations made management a challenge and cleanout of the barns after each eight-week growing cycle, long and difficult," Kerry recalls. "We went from 15 floors with minimal automation in two locations to four floors with state-of-the-art automation on one farm."

They have since added in-barn cameras, weigh scales and innovative LED attraction lights on the feed and water lines to improve production and a large air compressor and thermal jet fogger to make cleaning and disinfection faster and more thorough.

Celebrating 35 years, Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers' program is an annual competition to recognize farmers that exemplify excellence in their profession and promote the tremendous contribution of agriculture. Open to participants 18 to 39 years of age, making the majority of income from on-farm sources, participants are selected from seven regions across Canada, with two national winners chosen each year.

Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers for 2015 will be chosen at the National Event in Edmonton, Alberta from November 17–22, 2015.



Canadian Poultry Research Council Update

Chicken Farmers of Canada, along with the four other national poultry organizations, established the Canadian Poultry Research Council (CPRC) in 2001 to foster innovation, science and education within poultry research. The Council was established with a mandate to create and implement programs for research and development that address current and future industry needs.

Since its inception, CPRC has funded close to 90 different projects, and has leveraged CPRC industry dollars at a ratio of 3.4:1, with total funding over $14 million. CPRC's funding has been split between the areas of primary, applied, innovation, and application research.

CPRC's activities and responsibilities have increased over the years and in January a full-time Research Administrator was hired. Now with two full-time staff, CPRC will be in a better position to carry out its work.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Each year, CPRC puts out a call for research proposals in priority areas for the poultry industry. The call in 2014 included the topics of food safety, genetics, and health and welfare; CFC's priorities were included in the call for proposal. Eight projects were approved for funding this year, including:

- Research on evaluating new and existing euthanasia devices, including the KED (University of Guelph and University of Saskatchewan)
- Investigating the immune system response and evaluating the effects of antibiotic alternatives (University of Guelph, University of Saskatchewan)
- Improving immunity against respiratory viruses (University of Calgary)
- Preserving poultry genetics (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)
- Evaluating an egg yolk screening test for avian influenza in place of blood samples (Canadian Food Inspection Agency)
- Evaluating the effects of infrared treatment as a humane beak trimming method (University of Saskatchewan)
- Optimizing lighting for precision broiler breeder feeding (University of Alberta)

In addition to this regular call for proposals, CFC is funding a separate project through CPRC for on-farm research trials of antibiotic alternatives. Researchers at the University of Guelph, along with experts in the feed industry, will be conducting on-farm trials to evaluate the effectiveness of essential oils in preventing necrotic enteritis, with the goal of bringing a new product one step closer to the marketplace.

Scholarship Program

CPRC's scholarship program, in place since 2006, encourages and supports graduate students to carry out research in an aspect of poultry science. The scholarship helps to promote succession within the research community and build Canada's intellectual capacity in poultry science. Congratulations to Alexander Yitbarek who is the 2014 recipient! Alexander is a PhD student at the University of Guelph whose research program is focused on poultry immunology, and specifically looking at antibiotic alternatives as well as ways to control avian influenza.

Poultry Research Cluster

The new poultry research cluster was announced in early 2014 and work is now underway on the 17 projects that are included. The cluster brings together teams of scientists from across many disciplines to solve complex problems. With industry funds and over $4 million in government support, the cluster is an excellent way to make the most of available resources.

Chicken Farmers of Canada
Les Producteurs de poulet du Canada

HOW DO YOU REDUCE CANADIAN CHICKEN PRODUCTION?

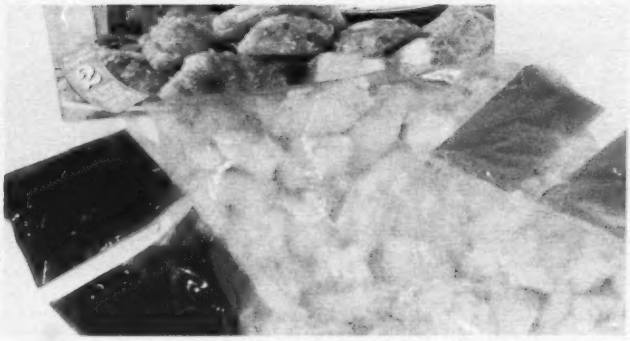
just add sauce

Specially-Defined Mixtures (SDM)

What are Specially-Defined Mixtures (SDM), you might ask? The answer is not a simple one which you will find in the dictionary. Chicken, when combined with 13 per cent of other ingredients, is labelled a "specially-defined mixture" and is not considered "chicken" for import control purposes. In other words, products with 87 per cent chicken (or less) are generally not subject to import controls and tariffs.

Seems simple enough, right? But then, when you start to consider what the makeup of that 13% includes, and the variety of products that can cause a chicken dish to be excluded from import controls, then you get to the meat of the issue which is that importers have been taking liberties with the rules and using it as an excuse to import more chicken into Canada. This is chicken that we don't need and which displaces Canadian production, jobs, revenue, and tax dollars for everyone involved. For a more complete list please see page 30 of our 2014 Annual Report.

Let's look back to understand the role of SDMs and why they are important to the Canadian chicken industry. In 1994, as part of the implementation of the WTO Uruguay Round agreement, cooked chicken combined with 13 per cent of other ingredients was labeled a "specially-defined mixture" and was no longer considered "chicken" for import controls purposes (ingredients such as sauces, water, bread, and



breading were not considered as eligible in the 13 per cent). Since these products can be imported in their finished form without being subject to import controls, Canadian food manufacturers request import allocations to source chicken from other countries, in order to manufacture similar products in Canada.

For some unknown reason, the cooking requirements and the inclusion of sauces have been left out of the Canadian tariff schedule definition for SDMs – requirements which were part of Canada's commitments under the Uruguay Round Agreement and which detail the handling and treatment of SDMs. A handful of Canadian companies have identified this as an opportunity which allows them to import even more chicken into Canada. In order to benefit from these rules, these companies have begun to deliberately create new SDMs by adding sauce to a box of chicken wings or strips. These products are created deliberately with the sole purpose of evading import controls.

The result has been a surge in chicken products with added sauce making their appearance on the Canadian market and disturbing the entire supply-chain in the process. The creation of these products, under the pretense that they could be imported from the U.S., has displaced the sourcing abroad at the expense of Canadian chicken producers and Canadian primary processors and the loss of all economic spinoffs.

The solution to this problem is simple and requires next to no change on the policy front, will require no additional paperwork or enforcement measures and is in fact a zero increase in protectionism. It is up to the federal government to implement the rules as they were intended so that they are not abused to the detriment of the Canadian chicken industry. It is in the interest of the entire chicken supply chain that the references to cooking requirements and to sauce of SDM be implemented in the Canadian tariff schedule as it was agreed in Canada's WTO commitment.

Reinstating these two missing components in the definition would resolve this issue and ensure that all Canadian businesses are playing by the same rules. Furthermore, this change is in line with Canada's WTO commitment and preserves Canadian jobs.

2015 Directors and Committees

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Yvon Cyr (New Brunswick)
Benoît Fontaine (Quebec)
Vernon Froese (Manitoba)
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Chair: Matthew Harvie
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Lucy McKee (CPEPC alternate)

Representatives

Canadian Poultry Research Council – Tim Keet (Sask. alternate)

Canadian Federation of Agriculture – David Hyink

National Farm Animal Care Council – To be determined

National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council – To be determined

TWITTER.COM/CHICKENFARMERS
FACEBOOK.COM/CHICKENFARMERS
Editor: Marty Brett - mbrett@chicken.ca
Graphic Designer: Stephanie St.Pierre - sstpierre@chicken.ca